

212284US3



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

Takeji UEDA, et al. :

EXAMINER: KORNAKOV, M.

SERIAL NO: 09/921,555 :

FILED: August 6, 2001 :

GROUP ART UNIT: 1746

FOR: WET CLEANING PROCESS AND WET
CLEANING EQUIPMENT :

#6
A9
3/1/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated February 12, 2003, Applicants elects with
traverse the invention of Group I, Claims 1-6, drawn to a wet treatment method.

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

... If the search and examination of an entire application can
be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it
on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or
independent inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding requirement on the grounds that
a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the
Examiner.

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Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single invention be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-11 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. J. Maier', written in a cursive style.

Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Attorney of Record

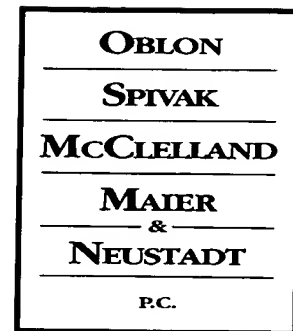
Christopher D. Ward

Registration No. 41,367



Docket No.: 212284US3

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/921,555
Applicants: Takeji UEDA, et al.
Filing Date: August 6, 2001
For: WET CLEANING PROCESS AND WET CLEANING
EQUIPMENT
Group Art Unit: 1746
Examiner: KORNAKOV, M.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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